Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 140111

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NP, US, EAID

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR KHANAL'S CALL ON ACTING SECRETARY

REF: STATE 106344; KATHMANDU 2013

- 1. SUMMARY: DURING CALL ON ACTING SECRETARY JUNE 25
 NEPALESE AMBASSADOR KHANAL DISCUSSED PLANS FOR KING
 BIRENDRA'S CORONATION, REQUESTED USG CAREFULLY CONSIDER
 NEW FIVE-YEAR PLAN AND ASSISTANCE THEREUNDER, PARTICULARLY
 IN AREA OF HYDROELECTRIC POWER, AND RECEIVED BRIEFING ON
 MIDEAST AND PRESIDENT'S MOSCOW TRIP. END SUMMARY.
- 2. KHANAL CALLED ON ACTING SECRETARY SISCO JUNE 25 TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR KING BIRENDRA'S CORONATION ON FEBRUARY 24, 1975. RIMAL OF NEPALESE EMBASSY ACCOMPANIED HIM; LAINGEN AND LORTON SAT IN.

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3. KHANAL SAID GON HOPING FOR "VERY SOLID" US DELEGATION

WHICH WOULD REFLECT THE GOOD STATE OF U.S.-NEPAL RELATIONS. HE SAID A FORMAL INVITATION WOULD BE COMING AND THAT GON DESIRED A DELEGATION AT THE "HIGHEST LEVEL POSSIBLE." ACTING SECRETARY AGREED DELEGATION SHOULD REFLECT THE STATE OF OUR RELATIONS, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS "EXCELLENT.,

4. KHANAL REQUESTED USG SHOW CONTINUED INTEREST IN NEXT FIVE-YEAR PLAN DUE IN THE NEXT SIX-EIGHT MONTHS AND

DESIGNED TO "SPREAD DEVELOPMENT" AROUND NEPAL. HE SINGLED OUT HYDROELECTRIC POWER AS ONE AREA GON HOPED WE WOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER AND NOTED SEVERE PROBLEMS FACED BY NEPAL SUBSEQUENT TO ENERGY CRISIS. ACTING SECRETARY ASSURED KHANAL WE WOULD CONTINUE TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN AND WILL CERTAINLY LOOK AT NEW PLAN. HE EXPRESSED HIS BELIEF THAT IN A SMALL COUNTRY SUCH AS NEPAL A "MODEST EFFORT" ON OUR PART CAN HAVE A LARGE IMPACT.

- 5. IN RESPONSE TO KHANAL'S REQUEST FOR UPDATE ON MID EAST, ACTING SECRETARY DESCRIBED IMPORTANCE OF SYRIA-ISRAEL DISENGAGEMENT DEMONSTRATING WILLINGNESS OF RADICAL ARAB STATE TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL. BETWEEN NOW AND SEPTEMBER THERE WILL BE A NUMBER OF HIGH-LEVEL VISITS TO WASHINGTON. PRESIDENT'S RECENT TRIP TO MID EAST SYMBOLIZED ACCEPTANCE OF BOTH SIDES OF US ROLE AS INTERMEDIARY AND CONTRIBUTED TO IMPROVEMENT OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE CONCERNED COUNTRIES. ACTING SECRETARY SAW A TREND TOWARD PEACE IN AREA BUT NOTED WE WERE STILL DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT SERIOUS TERRORIST ATTACKS.
- 6. KHANAL ALSO INQUIRED ABOUT OUR EXPECTATIONS OF PRESIDENT'S MOSCOW TRIP. ACTING SECRETARY SAID HE EXPECTED TRIP WOULD FURTHER CONSOLIDATE TREND TOWARD DETENTE, WOULD RESULT IN A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS, BUT WOULD NOT BE AS DRAMATIC AS PREVIOUS TWO SUMMITS. HE SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT ANY DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENTS ON MIDEAST, EUROPEAN SECURITY TALKS, OR SALT. SISCO

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